

Department of Justice

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MARLENE TYLER MORGAN COUNTY VICTIM ADVOCATE RECEIVES U.S. ATTORNEY'S AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO RIGHTS OF VICTIMS

PRESS RELEASE

In honor of National Crime Victim's Rights Week, which was April 13-19, Timothy M. Morrison, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, today recognized the work of Marlene Tyler, a Morgan County victim advocate, as a 2008 recipient of the United States Attorney's Carol S. Morris Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Rights of Victims.

This is a special award given annually by the United States Attorney's Office to honor individuals whose commitment and effort impacts the lives of crime victims in the Southern District of Indiana. It reflects the nation's heightened awareness of the devastating impact of crime and violence on its victims, while underscoring the importance of helping victims heal and rebuild their lives.

Marlene Tyler has served as a victim advocate in the Morgan County Prosecutor's Office for the past seven years. Despite this relative longevity in a highly stressful occupation, she remains enthusiastic, on call day and night to meet the needs of victims. She has helped victims fill out requests for protective orders. She has provided victims transportation to shelters. She attended court with them during difficult and contentious proceedings. Ms. Tyler values the rights of victims and respects their feelings. She remains in contact with those victims in need, long after cases have formally concluded in court. Marlene Tyler exhibits a human face and a caring personality in a criminal justice system that is too often cold and impersonal.

The U.S. Attorney's Award was established in the Southern District of Indiana in 1991 to recognize those persons who have made significant contributions in the lives of crime victims. National Crime Victim's Rights Week is a time for all Americans to learn about victimization,

reflect on the cost of crime to our society, and promote laws, policies, and programs to help victims of crime recover. This week's theme, "Justice for Victims. Justice for All," envisions a strengthened national commitment to the nearly 24 million Americans harmed by crime each year.

During the past three decades, the United States has made dramatic progress in securing rights, protections, and services for victims of crime. Every state has enacted victims' rights laws; law enforcement agencies give victims greater protection; and more than 10,000 victim assistance programs have been established throughout the country.

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